



PlayDough

DESCRIPTION:

Play dough can be bought or made

Best for ages 2 +

MIX & MATCH:

Cookie cutter shapes, tools for cutting & building, plastic animals or figures for dramatic play

Skills & Benefits:

- Building
- Fine motor
- Language development
- Cooperative Play
- Calming



Vocabulary

Design

Roll

Squish

Build

Mold

Flatten

Pinch

What are ways to introduce toy?

Tip #1

Prepare a few examples:

Create a few models/examples to show children how to build different kinds of things with play dough, flat objects & 3D objects

Tip #2

Plan building with child:

Ask children what they want to build. If they need help thinking of something, ask them about their favorite toy, book, activities, TV shows and think about objects that could be created.

Tip #3

Invite child to touch play dough

Demonstrate how to manipulate play dough, rolling around, squashing, pinching to form shapes, using tools to create shapes

What are some questions and ways to support children's language during play?

Tip #1

Ask questions

"What would you like to build? Do you need help planning how to build (child's idea)?"

Tip #2

Build on what they are saying

"I see you are making a (child's idea), can we expand it and make it more detailed/stronger?"

Tip #3

Play and model language

Model how to 'think aloud' while playing.... "I want to build a (idea), what do I need to do to make it?"